

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1 (original): An alignment apparatus for aligning the central position and an orientation mark of a generally plate-like work with a predetermined position, comprising:

a table, which is provided rotatably in a plane and equipped with a loading plane having suction holes for said work, a shift mechanism for shifting the table, and a sensor, which is disposed adjacent to the outer edge portion of said work, for detecting the position of the outer edge and outputting detected positional data for shifting said table to a predetermined position, wherein

said loading plane is formed into a size so as to be positioned inside the periphery of said work; a receiving member is provided outside said table and is positioned on the generally same plane as said loading plane; and the periphery of the receiving member has a plane configuration so as to come to a position further outside the periphery of the work.

2 (original): The alignment apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said sensor includes a light receiving element and a light emitting element disposed so as to optically sandwich the periphery portion of the work, and

said receiving member is formed using material having translucency.

3 (original): The alignment apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said light emitting element comprises a receiving member of glass-like scatterer, and is formed so as to reflect and project the light by allowing the light to enter the receiving member laterally.

4 (original): The alignment apparatus according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein said receiving member is detachably attached around the periphery of the table.

5 (original): An alignment apparatus for aligning the central position and an orientation mark of a generally plate-like work with a predetermined position, comprising:

a table, which is provided rotatably in a plane and equipped with a loading plane having suction holes for said work, a shift mechanism for shifting the table, and a sensor, which is disposed adjacent to the outer edge portion of said work, for detecting the position of the outer edge and outputting detected positional

data for shifting said table to a predetermined position, wherein

said table is formed out of material having translucency, and is formed into a size so that the periphery edge thereof comes to a position further outside the periphery of said work.

Preliminary Amendment:
By: Shuji KUROKAWA

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6 (currently amended): The alignment apparatus according to ~~any of claims 1-5~~ claim 1, 2
or 3, wherein said work comprises an ultrathin semiconductor wafer.